CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

 A method for transmitting messages from an industrial controller to a specified receiver using an Internet-related protocol, comprising the steps of:

generating with an alarm indicating system, if a specified event occurs, event-relevant information;

writing the event-relevant information to a database accessible to the specified receiver;

transmitting receiver-specific to a Web server out of the event-relevant information only a message indicating that an event has occurred; and receiving the message at the specified receiver, with the specified receiver accessing the event-relevant information in the database via a cryptographically protected communication protocol based on an Internet browser.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the cryptographically protected communication protocol implemented in an Internet browser comprises a "Hypertext Transfer Protocol Security" protocol.

- 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the "Hypertext Transfer Protocol Security" protocol comprises a "Secure Socket Layer" protocol or a "Transport Layer Security" protocol.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the message is transmitted to the specified receiver as an e-mail, an SMS or as a voice message.
- 5. The method of claim 4, wherein an e-mail message includes a cross-reference, in particular a URL address, that provides a link to the receiver-specific information that is stored in the database.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the event-relevant information comprises event messages, fault messages and additional information, such as machine status, status and process information, as well as file attachments which are stored in the database.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein access to the Web server is protected by a login prompt and a password.
- 8. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the database and the Web server are integrated with hardware of the controller.

- 9. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the database and the Web server are implemented as hardware that is separate from hardware of the controller.
- 10. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of data, parameters and programs for the controller are transmitted from the specified receiver to the controller.
- 11. A method for transmitting messages from an industrial controller to a specified receiver using a modem connection protected by an authentication protocol, comprising the steps of:

generating with an alarm indicating system, if an event occurs, eventrelevant information;

writing the event-relevant information to a database accessible to the specified receiver;

transmitting receiver-specific via the modem connection out of the eventrelevant information only a message indicating that an event has occurred; and

receiving the message at the specified receiver, with the specified receiver accessing the event-relevant information in the database via a cryptographically protected communication protocol via the modem connection.